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NEC-2370-US
Amendment dated 11/18/2004

09/853,622

04150012aa
Reply to office action mailed 08/18/2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are currently pending in the application, with claims 4-21 having been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected inventions or species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. By this amendment, claims 1 and 3 are amended for the Examiner's consideration. Claim 2 is canceled, the limitation of claim 2 having been incorporated into claim 1. The foregoing separate sheets marked as "Listing of Claims" shows all the claims in the application, with an indication of the current status of each .

This supplemental amendment is responsive to the Examiner's Advisory Action mailed November 16, 2004. In that Advisory Action the Examiner indicated that the anticipation rejection of claims 1 and 2 had been overcome by the Declaration of inventor Kazuhiko Hayashi, and that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been accomplished by adding the limitation of claim 2 to claim 1 and canceling claim 2. Claim 3 is therefore also allowable as being dependent from claim 1, which is now in allowable form. The amendments responsive to the Examiner's objections to the specification and the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, have been retained. However, the remaining amendments responsive to the Examiner's rejection as expressed in paragraphs 8-10 of the Office Action mailed on 08/18/2004 are withdrawn in order to avoid the need for a further search.

To the extent not inconsistent with the foregoing, the amendment submitted on October 18, 2004 is hereby incorporated by reference, and entry and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 3 of the present application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at 703-787-9400

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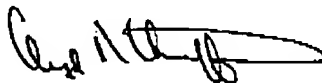
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(fax: 703-787-7557; email: clyde@wcc-ip.com) to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

If an extension of time is required for this response to be considered as being timely filed, a conditional petition is hereby made for such extension of time. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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